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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)		<b>Application Number</b>	10/020,733
		<b>Filing Date</b>	10/30/01
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Walke
		<b>Group Art Unit</b>	1652
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	W. W. Moore
<b>Total Number of Pages in This Submission</b>	22 + exhibits A-G	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	LEX-0263-USA

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):  return postcard
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
<b>Firm or Individual name</b>	Lance K. Ishimoto Reg. No. 41,866 Lexicon Genetics Incorporated
<b>Signature</b>	<i>Lance K. Ishimoto</i> reg no 40162 Peter G Seferian
<b>Date</b>	March 12, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING			
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<b>Typed or printed name</b>	Nancy Stacey		
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s):	Walke et al.	Group Art Unit:	1652
Application No.:	10/020,733	Examiner:	W. W. Moore
Filed:	10/30/01		
Title:	Novel Human Proteases and Polynucleotides Encoding the Same	Atty Docket No.:	LEX-0263-USA

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**  
**DATED OCTOBER 16, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

The Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on October 16, 2003 (Paper No. 7), which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the objections and rejections in Paper No. 7 in the same order in which they were originally raised.

A Petition for an Extension of Time of two months to and including March 16, 2004 and authorization to deduct the fee as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(2) from Applicants' representatives Deposit Account are included. The response is thus timely filed. Applicants believe no fees in addition to the fee for the extension of time are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.